

# **CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2006**

**WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**400 PHENIX AVENUE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.**

**PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.**

## **MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston School Committee was held on the evening of the above date at Western Hills Middle School with the following members present. Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, Mr. Stycos, and Mr. Traficante. Also present were Mrs. Ciarlo, Mr. Scherza, Mr. Votto, Mr. Balducci, Mr. Neri, and Mr. Laliberte.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Palumbo, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that the members adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Law 42-46-5(a)(1), and contract and litigation pursuant to RI State Law 42-46-5(a)(2).

Mr. Lupino, acting Chair, reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

## **I. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – April 10, 2006**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried to seal the April 10, 2006 Executive Session minutes.**

## **II. Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 27, 2006 Executive Session; March 20, 2006**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried to approve the Executive Session minutes of February 27, 2006 and the minutes of March 20, 2006.**

## **III. Public Acknowledgements / Communications**

**Ms. Robin Muksian-Schutt stated that she was representing Mayor Laffey who was ill. He asked her to represent him. She commented that both she and the Mayor were very proud graduates of the Cranston Public Schools. They received fine educations and strong foundations for everything they are trying to do today. This evening she was present to offer a proclamation from the Mayor's office to the Chester Barrows School. Ms. Muksian-Schutt read the proclamation and presented it to former Principal Craig Jamieson and the school staff.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried to move Resolution No.'s 06-4-1, 06-4-2, 06-4-3, and 06-4-4 to this portion of the meeting.**

**SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 06-4-1 – Whereas, on September 21, 2005, US Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced that the Chester W. Barrows School was one of three schools in Rhode Island to be named as a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of 2005, and**

**Whereas, the Chester W. Barrows School is one of 295 schools throughout the nation to receive this prestigious distinction, and**

**Whereas, the Chester W. Barrows School was honored because of its exceptional performance on the state assessments, and**

**Whereas, the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools' program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or achieve at very high levels, and**

**Whereas, the public schools are selected based on one of two criteria: schools with at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds that dramatically improve student performance on state tests or schools whose students, regardless of background, achieve in the top 10 percent of their state on state tests, and**

**Whereas, the Chester W. Barrows School staff led by its former Principal Craig Jamieson are examples of what can be accomplished through hard work and excellent instruction, be it**

**RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee honor and congratulate former Principal Craig Jamieson and the school staff for meeting the challenge of high expectations, and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that they receive a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the School Committee.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Stycos thanked Mr. Jamieson, the teachers, the parents, and everyone who makes Barrows School work. During the last election, he knocked on a lot of doors in the Barrows School neighborhood. When going door to door, one of his first goals is to get the person talk to him rather than slam the door in his face. He often would ask if they have had good experience with the schools, and he never heard a complaint about Barrows School. There was just a feeling that this school was exceptional; people**

**moved into the neighborhood to go to this school; they were aware of the SALT Report. That is the kind of thing people don't see or feel on a daily basis, but it is a school that is really respected in the neighborhood. He thanked them all for this good work.**

**Mr. Scherza read the Resolution, and Mrs. Ciarlo presented it to Mr. Jamieson and the staff. Mr. Scherza noted that Mr. Jamieson in his youth was once a premier baseball player in the State of Rhode Island, and he told Mr. Scherza that this was better than pitching a no hitter.**

**A photograph was taken.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

#### **SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 06-4-2 – Whereas, Cranston Public Schools' students participated in Reading Week 2006 sponsored by the Rhode Island State Council of the International Reading Association and the Providence Journal's Newspaper in Education Program, and**

**Whereas, in celebration of Benjamin Franklin's 300th Anniversary, Reading Week activities challenged students in Rhode Island's schools to read across the curriculum with activities that encouraged them to learn more about Franklin's efforts to make the world a better place and to invent their own solutions, and**

**Whereas, these winners were honored at a Reading Week Awards ceremony on Saturday, March 25, 2006, and**

**Whereas, the following winners have brought honor to themselves and their schools:**

**Cranston High School West**

**Shari Castelli Grade 12 1st Place**

**Amudha Panneerselvam Grade 12 1st Place**

**Alison Weitzner Grade 12 2nd Place**

**Erica Ruggieri Grade 12 3rd Place**

**Western Hills Middle School**

**Sherry Tsang Grade 7 1st Place**

**Be it RESOLVED that these students and their teachers, Ms. Tanja Houck and Ms. Wendy Pacheco, be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments, and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that they be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Ms. Iannazzi read the Resolution and presented it to the students. A photograph was taken.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 06-4-3 – Whereas, the Rhode Island Council of Teachers of English sponsors an annual Student Writing Contest, and**

**Whereas, winners in the Rhode Island Council of Teachers of English Annual Writing Contest will have their winning entries published in an anthology of student writing, and**

**Whereas, the anthology, along with a certificate and prize, will be awarded on**

**April 27, 2006 at Johnson & Wales University, to the following Cranston High School West students:**

**Kevin Vincent Grade 12 1st Place**

**Mathieu Whitman Grade 12 2nd Place**

**Emily Coogan Grade 12 3rd Place**

**Be it RESOLVED that these students and their teacher, Ms. Tanja**

**Houck, be congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments, and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that they be presented a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Traficante read the Resolution and presented it to the students. A photograph was taken.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

#### **SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**NO. 06-4-4 - Whereas, Emily Coogan, a Senior at Cranston High School West, competed statewide in the Voice of Democracy Contest sponsored annually by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and**

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**Whereas, Emily Coogan placed First in the State of Rhode Island with**



her award winning audio essay highlighting her grandfather's influence to explore the world and try new things, and

Whereas, Emily and fifty-three other students from around the country and parts of Europe went on an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, DC, and

Whereas, she and the other winners received a \$1,000 scholarship from the National Veterans of Foreign Wars,

Be it RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee congratulate Emily and her teacher, Mr. Jay Jones, for bringing honor to herself and to Cranston High School West, and

Be it further RESOLVED that she receive a copy of this Resolution signed by members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino read the Resolution and presented it to Emily. A photograph was taken.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### **IV. Chairperson Communications**

**Mr. Lupino reported that the School Committee presented its budget to the Mayor, and now it has become the Mayor's budget to the Cranston City Council. The committee is looking at an approximate \$5 million differential what is needed to run the Cranston Public Schools and what the Mayor has proposed to go forward to the Cranston City Council. The first hearing is Tuesday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m. at Cranston East. The second hearing will take place on May 3rd at Cranston West. It is very important for anyone who has a stake in Cranston Public Schools to attend those hearings. It is not necessary that people speak but it is important to show support for the Cranston Public Schools.**

#### **V. Superintendent Communications**

**Mrs. Ciarlo reported that this past week administration learned that some of the students performed very well in the Science Olympiad. The Science Olympiad was held on Saturday, April 1st. In the high school competition, Cranston West came in second place, and Cranston East came in fourth place. In the junior middle school competition, Bain Middle School, which won the state championship the last two years, placed**

**second; and Western Hills Middle School, which won the state championship four years ago, came in fourth place. Mrs. Ciarlo commented that everyone is very pleased with their efforts and the efforts of the staff to support them in this regard.**

## **VI. School Committee Member Communications**

**There were no School Committee communications from the members.**

## **VII. Public Hearing**

### **a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Items)**

### **b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)**

**Julia Fagundes, 94 Garland Avenue – She stated that she didn't want the committee to close her school because her sister, Emily, is going into Kindergarten. Her teacher, Mrs. Clarkin, is very nice and a very good teacher and so is her principal, Mrs. Casale. One of the best things about Horton is that everyone from her neighborhood goes there. She asked the committee to please save her school because everyone loves and cares about Horton very much.**

**Jameel Arrundell, 165 Pawtuxet Avenue – He stated that his school is Edgewood Highland School. He read the following statement: Thank you Mr. Stycos and Mr. Archetto for looking out for us. When we get older, we will look out for you the same way you did for us. He**

**presented Mr. Stycos with a Superman shirt.**

**Henry Wheeler, 171 Norwood Avenue, Edgewood Highland School – He read the following statement: I would like to thank Mr. Stycos and Mr. Archetto for all of their hard work. They have done a super job coming up with new ideas about trying to save our schools. I just want to let you know that I have noticed what is going on here, and I am glad to have two great men on my side. We have something for you in recognition of your heroic efforts to rescue Horton School. Thank you very much. He presented a Superman shirt to Mr. Archetto.**

**Angie Salvato, 13 Cedar Street – She stated that she wished to speak about Horton School. Her daughter is a second grader at Horton School. Her nephews are also Horton students who are in Kindergarten, second, third, and fourth grades. She also has four more future Horton students. They are all the fifth generation from her family to attend Horton. She stated that if they close Horton they would be making a big mistake. They are showing these children that no matter how hard one tries, it doesn't matter. The children love their school, and yes children do adapt; but why should they have to. She also runs the after-school program at Horton where she had a student from Stadium School who is in the YMCA Program that uses their gym say to her, "I wish our school had programs like you do." She asked if the committee could guarantee them after-school programs such as ceramics, basketball, dance, and karate.**

She further stated that they have a wonderful program called COZ which is out of the Gladstone School which helps with anything and everything needed. Their programs bring the families and communities together. She asked if the committee was going to tell these schools that they have to have COZ in their schools. COZ is for Title 1 schools, so Stadium will be able to let them in; and COZ will be a blessing for them. But their children at Woodridge will lose COZ and all that it stands for—family and friends. Also, Mrs. Salvato stated that she didn't understand the two all-day ESL Kindergarten classes. What the committee is telling her is that because her daughter was born in America and speaks English, she can't have the extra time in education. All-day Kindergarten is a great idea because her daughter really didn't get that much education from Kindergarten because it is only 2-1/2 hours. By the time they have snack outside, coats on and off, attendance, and the flag, maybe there is one hour to 1-1/2 hours for learning. The district should do the same as Johnston which is have a lottery for Kindergarten. If they want two full-day all-day Kindergartens, the parents sign in. If they want two full-day, not to say, "sorry your child speaks English, and you can't have the extra education.

Lori Stadelbauer, 30 Orlando Avenue – She stated that she was going to ask the same questions she has been asking the committee until

she gets an answer. (1) How much will it cost to re-configure Horton School if you turn it into your building? She stated that she still hadn't received an answer on that. Is it already in the budget that the committee proposed to City Council? (2) Are you making Horton School accessible when you change it around? Did you think about where all these people are going to park because she has already been working with City Council to make it no parking on both sides if it is turned into Special Services. Apparently, there is going to be a lot more traffic there if it is turned into a Special Services building. The forms the committee sent out regarding the budget savings, they put that they would be saving \$11,699 in utilities. She asked if this means that Special Services doesn't use utilities—no gas, no heat. They put that they wouldn't have a custodian and would be saving \$27,000, but they would have to hire a custodian to keep the building fit. She asked if the teachers were going to do it. She didn't understand how the committee could justify closing Horton and re-opening the building when they will have to re-configure this whole building for Special Services. They will spend the same amount of money, if not more, to re-configure that building than what they would to keep it open for the kids. She asked what it would cost to re-configure the building. She hoped that the committee could answer it before they close this school. If not, then there is something wrong. The committee has no numbers, and the numbers they do have are not right. The parents know it is all about the building. It is not about low enrollment. They had nineteen students register early enrollment for Kindergarten. She asked if those were

figured in for Woodridge or Stadium. She asked where the money is going to come from if they don't have it to run it as a school. She asked how they would get the money to run it as a Special Services building. Mr. Lupino responded that this was not a question-and-answer period. It is a period for public comment only. The discussion

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would take place during the resolution. Mrs. Stadelbauer told the committee that she didn't know how they could make a decision if they didn't have answers to those legitimate questions. They want to close the school and re-open it as Special Services and re-gut the whole building to make offices and classrooms. They are going to disrupt 135 students' lives. This is our school. She congratulated Chester Barrows School, and stated that John W. Horton School can do the same thing; but the committee won't give them the chance. When Orchard Farms School was opened, the committee pacified those people for one year. They received everything they wanted. After the first year, the committee consolidated all their classrooms. Now they come to the meetings saying their classrooms are too big. The Horton parents will be pacified for the first year. The committee will make everything comfy and cozy at Woodridge and Stadium for the first year, but when they come to the meetings next year telling the committee that the Woodridge classes are full, she asked the committee if they were going to listen to them then. She asked what

will happen when new people move into Woodridge and the classes are at cap, and they can't attend the school. She asked if they would tell these people who just bought their houses in the Woodridge area that their child can't attend the school that they thought he or she was going to because the Horton students are there. It is not fair to the people buying houses in Cranston. She asked the committee what they will do with the people buying houses in the Horton area. There is no way for a realtor to know that Horton School is being closed. It is not fair to the people buying homes. She told the committee that they are making a huge mistake by closing this school. It will devastate a lot of people by doing it. She hoped the committee would think long and hard.

Susan Adler, 20 Riverfarm Road – She thanked Henry Wheeler's mother because the Horton parents agree with her support. She stated it would be nice if all the parents and students at Horton School could give all the committee members a Superman shirt. She congratulated the Chester Barrows School for being a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School. The Horton children will be left behind if the committee closes the John W. Horton School. The committee will never know the potential that these children have. They are Blue Ribbon; they just don't have the actual ribbon in their hands. They know they are a high performing school, and they are right at that next step. Since the parents have been speaking to the committee over the past few months, they have been hearing about her daughter Shoshana Adler who is in special education. She asked her best



friend's father to join her at the microphone to stand with her. She introduced Logan's dad. She stated that Logan has Downs Syndrome. Logan was highlighted in the school's power point presentation to the committee. The word "acceptance" was noted in the presentation. Her daughter is best friends with Logan, not because he has Downs Syndrome and not because of any other reason but because the two of them adore each other. They get together almost every weekend for play dates. Logan and Shoshana are two of a kind, two of a kind because they are the only two students at John W. Horton who have special needs and who are the only two students who are in district. If the committee closes John W. Horton School, all the

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other kids who are at Horton get to go back to their home school. She asked where Logan and Shoshana get to go to. Their home school is Horton. It is bad enough to think about busing them somewhere. They are not sure they will be able to go to Woodridge or Stadium. The committee is potentially putting these kids with learning disabilities and other issues on a bus for a long time. Nobody will ever break the bond Logan and Shoshana have. When they get together almost every weekend, Logan cannot say the word Shoshana; he calls her nana. Yesterday when they were together along with her watching, they were playing on the slide. She has never been prouder of her daughter's friendship with Logan and

Logan for the friendship with Shoshana. The committee will never break their bond. She begged the committee to give the parents the opportunity on several levels. Let them be that Blue Ribbon School; let their children not have to find a new home school if this school is closed. They all want to be super heroes, and obviously Mr. Stycos and Mr. Archetto are super heroes to these two boys. She told each committee member that Logan and Shoshana need their help.

Al Williamson, 69 Roslyn Avenue – Mr. Williamson read a statement as follows: I have three questions regarding the busing of children from Horton to Woodridge: 1) Where would the bus stops be located? 2) How long would the bus rides be? 3) Are there mileage restrictions on busing Kindergartners? If so, what are they?

Cherie Williamson, 60 Roslyn Avenue – Mrs. Williamson asked the committee if they had considered that the entire city of Cranston would be affected by their decision. She stated that Cranston has always been a place where young families buy houses because of the reputation of the Cranston school system. One of the main reasons she and her husband decided to purchase the home they are in was because of Horton School. By closing Horton School this year and the threat of closing two or three more schools over the next two years, the committee will be sending out a message that the system is very unstable. She asked them if they really want to do that. She asked how the parents could get answers to their questions. No one seems to be giving the parents the answers they deserve. Mr. Lupino

responded that the answers to some of the questions have already been answered, and the ones concerning buses will be answered during discussion on the resolution. This was not a question-and-answer period. Mrs. William commented that the parents were confused as to how much it would cost to renovate the school building. Mr. Lupino stated that it was already presented in the budget documents and at the Horton School. Mrs. Williamson further commented that Saturday evening she put her daughter to bed crying confused that she was doing something wrong as to why the committee was closing down her school. She feels she has done something wrong to have the school closed. She doesn't understand why she has to leave her teachers and friends behind. Mrs. Williamson commented that she doesn't know how to answer her daughter's question.

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Mark Lucas, 28 Riverfarm Road – Mr. Lucas stated that in Resolution No. 06-4-9 it states that two all-day Kindergarten classes are going to be created, but yet in the Horton Plan, it said two all-day Kindergarten classes with ESL. He asked if this was a typographical error, and if it is a typographical error, to please let the parents know. If it is going to be an all-day Kindergarten without ESL, he asked how it was going

to be funded. He thought there was something with ESL funding that tied into paying for that class. It seemed to him that if there were two all-day Kindergartens that were not funded in any other way, they would need a couple of teachers to take care of it. Mr. Lucas read the following statement: “Rhode Island General Law states that a School Committee must recognize that their first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students. I am not the only taxpayer who fails to see how closing a high-performing neighborhood elementary school with a growing enrollment contributes to the educational welfare of our students. Should Horton be closed under the guise of saving money, it would set a dangerous precedent and doom at least two more small elementary schools to closure. As you know, this year’s budget shortfall is only the tip of the iceberg – there will be multimillion dollar shortfalls over the next two years. Furthermore, I simply do not understand why the School Committee is in such a rush. The City Council is not scheduled to take up the School Department budget until tomorrow night. Killing Horton before all the numbers are in is irresponsible at best. Perhaps if the closing of Horton were part of a carefully planned redistricting of the school system, then an argument could be made for closing Horton and the community might be more understanding. However, it appears to many that the School Department only wants the building and cares very little about the children who would be affected. Some of you may be thinking of retiring from public service, while others may be thinking of furthering their political careers. Please don’t let the reckless closing of a productive and high-performing

**neighborhood school become your defining moment.**

**Freda Lehrer, 63 Riverfarm Road – She stated that she was speaking to the committee as an advocate for Horton School. Her children are grown, and it has been many years since they attended Horton School. It has been disheartening to listen to the parents so articulately state the facts and pose their questions meeting after meeting, and be told essentially to accept the inevitable. Although she is really sincerely pleased to see Mr. Palumbo tonight, she knew that his vote would be the death blow for Horton. Mr. Palumbo and the other members of the School Committee from the western half of the city will do their evil deed. She remembered several years ago when she was facing a very frustrating experience with a particular school, and she e-mailed Mr. Lupino after the fact. Mr. Lupino e-mailed her and told her that she should have just called him because the School Committee was her voice. They speak for people. So, she asked Mr. Lupino why he and the other members of the committee couldn't speak for these parents. Be their advocate in these desperate financial times instead of being adversarial. She stated further that she sees a hidden agenda in all of this, and this is a question that she is not posing rhetorically. She would sincerely**

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**appreciate Mr. Lupino writing this down because she would like to have it addressed in an open discussion. She questioned whether in**

five years all of the neighborhood schools will be closed and put to other uses. She asked if the administration would be taking over one of the schools. Arlington, in addition to being small, has great parking. She asked what the plan was for Arlington School down the road. She asked what the plan was for Waterman School down the road. It might be cost effective to close all of these tiny schools, and probably it would be cost effective to close all of them and house the students in a few larger schools. However, that doesn't represent the wishes of the parents. Nobody asks the parents. She asked if anyone ever asks the parents of Arlington or Waterman what is going to happen to their schools or if it was all being done behind their backs to some big agenda out there that she wished the committee would talk about. The time to prevent this from happening, to pick off the small schools one by one, is right now. It is reality that the schools on the eastern side of the city don't pose a threat the way that the western side is. At the last meeting, the committee had the police present expecting the large forces to come up, and they won't get that from the eastern side of the city. It means that the committee has to step up to the plate. These parents need the committee's support more than ever. She asked them to please not let them down.

Sharon Hagopian, 87 Roslyn Avenue – Mrs. Hagopian read the following statement: I have three questions regarding class sizes if you do close Horton: (1) Now that pre-registration is complete, what are the class size projections at Stadium and Woodridge? (2) Do you

know how many classes will be capped and at what number of students? (3) Will new Stadium and Woodridge students be bussed out of neighborhood if they enter a capped class? Mrs. Hagopian asked if any committee members could answer her questions, and Mr. Lupino responded that they could not be answered at this time; they would be answered during discussion on the resolution. Mr. Archetto stated that the members of the public need an explanation why the committee was not answering these questions. Mr. Lupino stated that this portion was for public comment. It is not a question and answer period. The questions and answers would come from the committee members during their discussion. The other time for questions and answers was during the budget hearings. Mrs. Hagopian asked Mr. Lupino if he would strongly consider the questions she was posing to him, and Mr. Lupino responded that anyone on the committee could ask these questions. Mr. Hagopian asked if the committee knew how many classes would be capped and what the number of students was. Mrs. Hagopian asked if new Stadium and Woodridge students would be bussed out of the neighborhood if they enter a capped class.

Ginny McCormick, 20 Lockmere Road – She stated that the parents wished to request that Mr. Lupino recuse himself from voting on the kill Horton resolution due to his wife's employment as a teacher at Stadium being a potential conflict of interest. As everyone knows, an elected official must avoid even the appearance of impropriety which is why they are making this request.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi, seconded by Mr. Traficante and carried to remove Resolution No. 06-3-9 from the table. Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, and Mr. Stycos were opposed. Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, and Mr. Traficante were in favor.

**SPONSORED BY MR. PALUMBO**

**NO. 06-3-9 – Whereas, the School Administration has determined that the John W. Horton School and the Special Services Center should be reconfigured as set forth in its plan as presented at the February 9, 2006 public hearing, and**

**Whereas, the School Committee has approved its 2006-2007 school budget to reflect the changes in the school configuration as set forth in the School Administration's Plan,**

**Be it RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee hereby approves the School Administration's Plan to reconfigure the Horton School by eliminating the K-5 classes, creating two integrated pre-school classes, and two all-day Kindergarten classes, and creating office space for special education directors, coordinators, program supervisors, nursing supervisor, and central registration; and to reconfigure the Special Services Center to create two**



classrooms for behaviorally involved students, and offices for program supervisors; or such other similar configurations for said schools as the School Administration deems appropriate.

Mr. Palumbo stated that, regardless of what the public may think no committee member was happy about this. No one has shown the committee where the money will come from. If the taxes are raised, the people will be screaming. He asked the public if they heard Mr. Lupino at the beginning of the meeting when he said how many millions of dollars the budget is off. It is millions of dollars away from being met. These are things the committee has to meet. The public doesn't like hearing it. The children will be getting good educations in many of the schools. He asked how many times the parents had sessions and aired their gripes. He stated that they had many of them. None of the comments have changed. They said tonight that the committee doesn't care about the children. If the committee didn't care about the children, they would be taking a non-paying job, putting in all types of hours trying to find the money to support the educational programs. If the committee didn't care about the children, the district wouldn't have a Superintendent who is Superintendent of the Year because of the type of job she has done. The public doesn't like hearing that the committee doesn't have the money to keep all these things running, and they don't have the money. No one is showing him where that money is coming from, and the committee has worked very hard trying to dig out where it would come from. As far as where the children are going, he

personally thinks most of the kids are upset because of what they hear the parents saying. He doesn't think it is the other way around, but that is his personal opinion. However, they are not going to schools where they are not going to get a good education because they are. The committee has to put this to sleep once and for all.

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The Resolution to close Horton School is Resolution No. 06-3-9, and regardless of what Supermen are saying to the public, neither of those two Supermen have come up with answers. They come up with things to create a problem and to give the public something to argue with. But neither of those two men have come up with answers. It is a political thing, and that is the way it is going to be. As far as he is concerned, the committee has to close that school; they have no choice. This has been discussed again and again. As far as what is going to go on afterwards, if the public doesn't understand what is going to happen there, call administration and they will explain it again. If they don't want to listen, don't bother calling. He asked the public if they had the money to open that school. He asked the public if they know where the money is coming from. No one on the committee is happy with this, but it has to go through because of the educational and financial needs.

Mr. Stycos asked administration to address some of the questions

asked by the parents. Mr. Lupino commented that the first question asked concerned the bus stop. Mr. Lupino asked if it was premature to know where the bus stops would be. Mr. Scherza responded that it concerns well over 100 students, and he couldn't tell the public off the top of his head where the bus stops would be. It was almost impossible to answer that question. Mr. Lupino commented that the ride length was mentioned, and neither of the receiving schools are more than 1-1/2 miles. Woodridge School may be 2 miles from some of the homes of the children who may be going there. Ride length is really a non-issue with regard to the mileage question concerning the mileage restriction, he was not sure if there is a different one for Kindergarten and first through fifth grades. Mr. Scherza responded that they are much more stringent in terms of accommodating Kindergarten students than for the older students. As a point of information, Mr. Scherza commented that Mr. Zisseron has said that he has buses coming through those areas, and he could provide the busing service to the students necessary without adding any buses or drivers.

Mr. Stycos stated that he didn't understand the Kindergarten answer. He thought that if a child lived within one mile of an elementary, that child had to walk. Mr. Scherza responded that the district is able to accommodate Kindergarten students a lot more because they are at different times; and they have buses free going along those routes. They are much better able to accommodate those requests. Mr. Stycos asked what the mileage is for Kindergarten students, and Mr.

Scherza responded that it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile for elementary students. Mr. Stycos asked if the district makes exceptions to that rule, and Mr. Scherza responded that the district tries to accommodate whenever they can without posing any undue hardship. They like to say yes when it doesn't create any extra work or time on bus runs.

Mr. Lupino commented that the other question was concerning all-day Kindergarten. He indicated that his agenda states All-day Kindergarten classes. It does not differentiate between All-day Kindergarten and All-Day Kindergarten ESL. Mr. Laliberte

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responded that they were looking at All-day Kindergarten for some of the ESL students because they are the ones who have a significant need in the area of language. The funding could be coming from Title 3 which is grant fundings for ESL as well as ESL set aside that comes from the State. Mr. Lupino assumed that anyone of any particular means that once they develop these classes if there is any additional room it would go by lottery. He also assumed that someone could pay the additional fee if they wished to attend. Mr. Laliberte responded that administration hadn't discussed this. The only other Kindergarten situation they had talked about is integrated pre-school which is not Kindergarten but pre-school. In those cases, there are five special education students and ten general education students. For the general education

students who go to the pre-school, their parents pay to send them to that pre-school.

Ms. Iannazzi asked if it was true that the State reimburses All-day Kindergarten up to \$1,500 per student. Mr. Scherza responded that this was correct. There is a state subsidy for those students in All-day Kindergarten. Currently Cranston does not take advantage of that, so that portion of the taxes generated from Cranston go to communities that have All-day Kindergarten, and for this district that would be \$1,500 per capita for each student in All-day Kindergarten. Mr. Lupino commented to Mr. Balducci that the current reimbursement from the State to all of Cranston is \$500. Mr. Balducci responded that this district doesn't have any, so even though the budget does indicate that there is approximately \$2,000 coming to Cranston under that category, it is just the way a particular category from this district gets reported to the State. This district does not have any reimbursements for All-day Kindergarten.

Mr. Stycos asked where the All-day Kindergartens are now, and Mr. Laliberte responded that the district doesn't have any All-day Kindergarten right now. There are some individual children with special needs who may be attending all day. In that case, if the district does get any reimbursement, it is for those students only. Those students are at Stone Hill School. This would be additional to that class.

**Mr. Archetto stated that he wished to address some of the comments made by Mr. Palumbo with regard to the Supermen at this table. He commented that he knew how difficult it was for Mr. Palumbo to be at this meeting and that he had respect for him. He commented with regard to answers presented by himself, one by Mr. Stycos, and one by Mrs. Greifer that the committee agreed upon. With regard to answers to find the money, if the committee was tougher and more stringent in contract negotiations, the money would be there.**

**Mrs. Ciarlo left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Lupino noted that the next question concerned the class size at the two receiving schools. He said that there was a model projected that was brought forth. The maximum for each class is stated in the contract. Mr. Scherza stated that the number is**

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**24 for early elementary, and it goes up to 27 for upper elementary. Administration did put out an estimate at the public hearing based on the current addresses of students as to what the approximate class sizes would be. Mr. Lupino said the other concern was the Horton students going to either Woodridge or Stadium, if there were capped classes, if they would be bused somewhere else. Mr. Scherza responded that hypothetical questions receive hypothetical answers. If they were capped, they could be**

bused, and that is the possibility at any of the schools within Cranston within the policy. They don't envision that happening right now, although currently they have to do it. The actual move would make a situation where almost all the students would be in smaller classes than they are currently; and both of the schools, Stadium and Woodridge, are high performing schools. In fact, Woodridge is one of three or four of the highest performing in the entire state.

Mr. Lupino stated that the other question was would all neighborhood schools be closed in five years. He commented that he could not imagine closing too many more schools because they don't have the money to build new schools. However, something does happen; times changes, and sometimes schools do not. Some of these smaller schools that were built around the turn of the last Century are inadequate areas of learning because they don't have the facilities for education the way it is known today. He couldn't state that he could promise anyone that there couldn't be more schools closing; however, the idea of massively closing schools is not going to happen. Cranston is a very popular place to live. There are a lot of people moving into the area. People are having less children, and they are waiting longer to have them. They have seen some decrease in enrollment on the elementary level, but five years out is too far to project. Part of the reason the district is in the situation it is in is due to the mandates. They don't know when the next mandate will come down the road. There may be so much information brought forth that the next mandate may be that elementary classrooms can be no more

than eighteen which in one sense will be a wonderful thing; however, logistically, how could the district accomplish that. That is why, when people talk about closing Horton School and some people talk about re-configuring Horton School, the committee is not giving up these buildings. There were some School Committees in the past that closed Valentine Almy, Pettaconsett School, and Meshanticut School. These schools were closed and sold, and this is not the case with Horton School. He didn't think this School Committee or any School Committee is in that situation of closing a building and stopping all education going on there.

Ms. Iannazzi clarified that the class size question posed by the public was a little different than the question that was just asked. The public had asked whether or not now having the Kindergarten registration numbers whether or not the actual numbers were more than anticipated and whether Woodridge and Stadium can accommodate the nineteen Kindergarteners from the Horton area. Mr. Scherza responded that both Stadium and Woodridge can accommodate the Kindergarten numbers that administration has to this point.

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Mr. Stycos asked if there was an estimate of the cost to re-configure this building as the administration is proposing. Mr. Scherza responded that he did not have an answer for Mr. Stycos because he didn't know that exists because there are no plans to re-configure



and make offices. They would locate people there, but there is no plan at this moment to make offices upstairs. Mr. Stycos commented that phone lines would have to be installed. Mr. Scherza said that they would have to do those types of things, but he didn't have an estimate off the top of his head.

Mr. Stycos stated that he wished to respond to Mr. Palumbo's comments. He didn't think the statement that the committee has worked hard to save Horton is an accurate statement. He knows that he made a proposal, and he knows that Mr. Palumbo never called him about that proposal. Mr. Palumbo never said that he liked item No. 3, but he didn't like item No. 5. He gave him no reaction as to whether or not he was interested in it. It was put out ten to twelve days before the committee voted on it. That, to him, is not working hard on something. It reminds him of when Mr. Palumbo voted to go with the Superintendent's proposal to eliminate every sports program and extra-curricular program in the entire school system. He voted on that and approved it. Mr. Stycos offered an amendment to that to cut money in other areas so that sports and other activities would be saved, and Mr. Palumbo's response to that was exactly the same as what he had to say tonight—they don't know what they are talking about; it's no good; everything is bad. The problem is that there isn't a lot of thinking going on, not that his proposal is the greatest, but there isn't any thinking. Mr. Palumbo asks where the money is going to come from; nobody knows where the money is going to come from. He has asked that question in a number of meetings that Mr.

Palumbo has been present at when they had to deal with raises for the employees. Mr. Stycos would ask where the money was going to come from, and Mr. Palumbo would say that these people work hard; they are doing a great job, and Mr. Stycos said that he has never challenged that. He thought the money could be better spent elsewhere. Mr. Palumbo never said where the money was going to come from. Somehow when it comes to these raises for employees, that question isn't even asked. Mr. Palumbo voted for a teachers' contract that he didn't even know what it was going to cost. This proposal to close Horton is about a \$400,000 savings, but when it came to the budget and somebody proposed adding \$200,000 for teacher aides, that passed. Nobody asked where the money was going to come from. Instead, it just passed, and it was \$200,000. It was one-half the savings from Horton. Mr. Stycos asked where the money can come from, and stated that it was a very good question. The committee doesn't know how much it is going to have, and they do know pretty clearly that they are not going to get \$5 million more from the City Council. He did think that they would be better off not making this final move to close Horton, but instead postpone it until they look at the whole question all together. Right now what they are saying is that the most important thing to cut is closing Horton. He hoped that no one really thinks that. He asked committee members to vote no on this resolution. He thought it was premature, and he urged people to vote no.

**Mr. Lupino clarified that the projected savings from closing Horton School is in the budget as presented to the Mayor. The Mayor did not approve that budget but additionally cut it \$5 million so he was aware of the Horton School closing in that budget and went \$5 million beyond that figure to cut the budget. It would actually be going against the committee's budget that they already passed and approved to let this go forward.**

**Mr. Palumbo responded to Mr. Stycos's statements and commented that Mr. Stycos comes out with figures, and yes he has questioned Mr. Stycos's figures in the past. He will probably continue to question them when he knows they are wrong. He comes out with a figure of \$500,000, and it is not \$500,000. As Mr. Lupino just commented, it is in the budget, and if he wants to see it, it's that way. He was not going to go into the fact that teachers deserve a raise, especially at the level the teachers and administrators are. He was not going to go into that because Mr. Stycos always thinks that teachers receive too much money. He is not going to save Horton School by doing this because if he thought there was some way of just cutting some particular item and Horton School could have been saved, they would have done it. As far as intelligence goes, there is a lot of intelligence in the school department. As far as saying there is no intelligence, that is something else that he would question. The point is that the parents are on an emotional track, and he could understand it to a point but not to the point where one would begin to**

stop with reason. When reason is thrown out and one starts to listen to anyone on the committee that says something that is good for their side, it is wrong. He is here taking the hard side, but what he is saying is honest.

Mrs. Greifer stated that someone in the audience had brought up the possibility of raising funds to pay for sports. To the best of her knowledge, that is illegal in the State of Rhode Island. She knows it happens in Massachusetts, but she doesn't believe that Rhode Island State Law permits it. Mrs. Greifer went on further to say that in September 1988 she took her five year old to Kindergarten at Horton School. Mrs. Greifer asked to continue her comments at a later time because of this emotional issue.

Mr. Traficante asked that the committee not make a political football out of this issue because the parents don't appreciate it, and the committee is embarrassing themselves. He went on to say that a couple of things were mentioned tonight. The first was the teachers' contract and if the committee could have done a better job with it. The committee spent eight months negotiating that contract with over thirty-five sessions of two, three, and four-hour sessions. The committee had to call in a state mediator to basically reconcile their differences to finally come to a conclusion because if they didn't settle, a strike was eminent. He asked them not to be critical. They are a committee of one. When the committee votes, that is the final vote. Let's not point fingers that he did this or another did that. He

could care less what happened in years past. Let's talk about the present. Secondly, he told Mr. Stycos that he brought up the fact that he brought a proposal forward to save Horton. That night Mr. Traficante proved to him that

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by state law that proposal was illegal and improper before this body. He could not take money from the Charter School by state law. Therefore, his proposal was null and void. Third, when he was Mayor of this City, he experienced two elementary school closings. There was no doubt about it that it was traumatic. One was Doric Avenue Elementary School and the second one was the Thornton Elementary School. The parents were equally upset, but the kids made out very well when they were deployed to other schools. The same thing is going to happen here. The kids going to Woodridge will be participating in one of the highest performing schools not only in this City but also in the State of Rhode Island. He doubts very much if they are going to get a second rate education. Secondly, the kids going to Stadium will get increased Title aid funding which will give them further resources and assistance to provide them with a better education. The Superintendent has guaranteed that those kids in the Kindergarten area will be deployed properly and will not be over-sourced in that particular area. With regard to the closings of the Doric and Thornton Elementary Schools, be assured that Horton will be utilized in the same fashion that Doric Avenue was utilized and

Thornton was utilized. Those buildings are being utilized for educational purposes. There is an opportunity to bring back many of the kids that are being sent out of district for special education costing the district anywhere between \$35,000 and \$55,000 per child. By bringing those kids back to the City, it is going to save the school department budget wise. It is prudent budgeting in his opinion and prudent use of the building. He asked the members to stop pointing fingers and to get down to business and vote on this issue.

Mrs. Greifer commented that she did not have the composure to speak as long as she had intended tonight. She went on to say that she could see what is about to happen, and it is a sad day for Cranston when the committee starts closing its neighborhood schools and affecting the quality of the neighborhoods and residents.

Mr. Stycos stated that he wished to comment on Mr. Traficante's remarks. He strongly disagreed that a strike was eminent by the teachers. There had not even been a strike vote taken, and school was not going to open for another week when they settled. Mr. Traficante interrupted Mr. Stycos and stated that this took place on a Friday, and school was opening the following Tuesday. Mr. Stycos stated that that was not the day they settled. It was not opening the next day. Mr. Stycos went on to say that the belief that his proposal to keep Horton open was illegal, people can call it illegal and say it enough times and then discredit the idea. His proposal was that the committee reduce the number of special benefits provided to the

**Charter School. Nothing under state law says that the committee has to allow a Charter School to recruit actively inside its schools. Nothing in the state law says that the committee has to provide Workers Compensation, liability insurance, property and casualty insurance, a school lunch program, and a host of other programs that the committee provides the Charter School for free. Nothing in state law says that the committee has to do that. In fact, state law says that when there is a dispute over what those charges should be for providing**

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**services, there is a dispute resolution system. Mr. Traficante is continually saying that that proposal was illegal. He understands that Mr. Traficante is very upset about it because it is his employer and he is the Chairman of the school; but frankly it is an inaccurate statement.**

**Mr. Traficante stated that he would not allow Mr. Stycos to tell lies. All Mr. Stycos has to do is call Mr. Keith Oliveira or call the legal counsel for the RI Department of Education. They will tell him quite clearly that one cannot alter the population of any charter school that is set by the charter approved by the Board of Regents. That makes Mr. Stycos's proposition illegal and improper. He cannot alter it, reduce it, nor can he increase it. Nothing is for free. If he would check against state law, he would see that 5% of the per pupil**

**expenditure comes off the top for indirect costs for the Charter School that the School Committee gives to the district. Mr. Traficante further commented that he is not telling lies; all Mr. Stycos has to do is check, and he refuses to do it.**

**Move by Mr. Palumbo, seconded by Mr. Traficante and carried to move the question. Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, and Mr. Stycos were opposed. Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, and Mr. Traficante were in favor.**

**This Resolution was adopted with Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, and Mr. Traficante in favor. Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, and Mr. Stycos were opposed. Mr. Lupino stated that under Ethics Ruling 2003-29, he is allowed to vote on this resolution.**

**Mr. Lupino called for a five-minutes recess at 8:48 p.m.**

**Mr. Palumbo left the meeting at 8:49 p.m.**

**Mr. Lupino reconvened the meeting at 9:00 p.m.**

## **VIII. Consent Calendar / Consent Agenda**

**Mr. Lupino stated that the Consent Agenda included the following resolutions: 06-4-11, 06-4-12 adding Susan Morgan; 06-4-13, 06-4-14**



removing Debra Messenger; 06-4-15, 06-4-16 adding Marc Reif; 06-4-17, 06-4-18 adding Peter Colarusso; 06-4-19 adding Elena Schiappa and removing Peter Colarusso; 06-4-20, 06-4-21, 06-4-22, 06-4-24, 06-4-25, and 06-4-26.

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**NO. 06-4-11 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year:**

**Erin Hicks, salary to be at the first step plus Bachelors plus 36 hours of the prevailing salary schedule**

**Education – Rhode Island College, BA**

**Experience – Cranston Public Schools' Substitute**

**Certification – Elementary**

**Assignment – Waterman School, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE**

**Effective Date of Employment – April 11, 2006**

**Authorization – Replacement**

**Fiscal Note: 11011012 512100**

**NO. 06-4-12 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the**

**Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**William Madonna Secondary Science/Biology**

**Susan Morgan Technology Education, K-12**

**NO. 06-4-13 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual be appointed as an athletic coach:**

**Paul Ouellet, Assistant Boys' Outdoor Track, Cranston High School West**

**Step – 1**

**Class – D**

**Playing Experience – Three Years Member of Cranston High School West Track Team**

**Experience – Volunteer Assistant Coach, Cranston High School West Freshmen Football**

**Certification – Rhode Island Coaches Certification; CPR/First Aid Certified**

**NO. 06-4-14 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section B of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School**

**Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:**

**Mary-Ellen Russell, Teacher**

**Elementary**

**Effective Dates: September 2006 to September 2007**

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**NO. 06-4-15 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Rosaleen Grossi, Teacher**

**Park View Middle School**

**Effective Date: April 14, 2006**

**NO. 06-4-16 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following certified personnel be accepted:**

**Ina Land, Teacher**

**Elementary**

**March 27, 2006**

**Marc Reif, Teacher**

**Cranston High School West**

**Effective Date: June 23, 2006**

**NO. 06-4-17 – Whereas, funding for certain positions is not assured for the 2006-2007 school year, and as a result, more senior teachers could elect to take a current position, and**

**Whereas, positions must now be made available for more senior teachers who are scheduled to return from leave,**

**Be it RESOLVED that said teacher be terminated at the close of the school year under provisions of Title 16 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that the Superintendent notify this teacher of the Committee's action to terminate their employment.**

**NO. 06-4-18 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:**

**Anthony Saccoccia, Part-time Custodian**

**Barrows School**

**Effective Date of Employment: April 11, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 11247481 518200**

**Edward Gervais, Part-time Custodian**

**Effective Date of Employment: April 11, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 13047481 578200**

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**Patricia Pashalian, Three-hour Food Service Worker**

**Park View Middle School**

**Effective Date of Employment: March 20, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 32347179 511000**

**Mayra Marin, Three-hour Food Service Worker**

**Western Hills Middle School**

**Effective Date of Employment: March 20, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 32947179 511000**

**Graziella Rhodes, Instructor**

**Alternate Education Program**

**Effective Date of Employment: March 27, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 40235121 512100**

**Thea DeConti, Instructor**

**Alternate Education Program**

**Effective Date of Employment: March 27, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 16278712 512100**

**Cheslyn Lavimodiere, Bus Monitor**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date of Employment: March 20, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 14347518 518600**

**Peter Colarusso, Bus Driver**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date of Employment: April 11, 2006**

**Fiscal Note: 14347543 517200**

**NO. 06-4-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:**

**BUS DRIVERS**

**Karin Scapinakis**

**Elizabeth Millar**

**Maryann Papa**

**Kristin Sheridan**

**CUSTODIANS**

**Joseph Burnett**

**Elena Schiappa**

**NO. 06-4-20 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XII, Section D of the Master Agreement (Technical Assistants) between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:**

**Joyce Gaulin, Technical Assistant**

**Cranston Area Career & Technical Center**

**Effective Dates: April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007**

**NO. 06-4-21 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:**

**Carmelo Alessandro, Bus Driver**

**Transportation**

**Effective Date: March 22, 2006**

**NO. 06-4-22 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the termination of Employee B be accepted.**

**NO. 06-4-24 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases through grant funding be approved:**

**Auditorium Curtains for Gladstone School in the amount of \$3,987  
(funding from 21st Century)**

**Number of bids issued 11**

**Number of bids received 5**

## **POLICY AND PROGRAM**

**NO. 06-4-25 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2006-2007 School Calendar that was approved under Resolution No. 06-3-5 be revised to reflect no staggered opening for grades 6 and 9. School begins for all students on September 6, 2006.**

**NO. 06-4-26 - RESOLVED, that policy No. 5140.2, student policy for Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and No. 2520, administration policy for Automated External Defibrillator (AED), be approved for second and final reading.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that these Resolutions be adopted.**

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**IX. Action Calendar / Action Agenda**



**SPONSORED BY MS. IANNAZZI**

**NO. 06-4-5 - Whereas, Cranston and Warwick Public Schools are committed to fostering an efficient yet well-rounded educational experience for all students; and**

**Whereas, Cranston and Warwick Public Schools are urban-ring districts which struggle to keep up with the budgetary demands of unfunded mandates, the rising costs of health care, and expanding fuel costs; and**

**Whereas, the Cranston School Committee seeks cost-saving measures and attempts to stretch all taxpayer dollars;**

**Be it RESOLVED that a sub-committee be formed to study joint purchasing with Warwick Public Schools and to identify common educational programs where shared resources and collaboration could provide potential savings to both districts; and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that the Cranston delegation to this sub-committee consist of the Superintendent or her designee, the Business Manager of the Cranston Public Schools, two School Committee members, and a member of the public appointed by the Chairperson of the School Committee.**

**Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mr. Archetto that this**

**Resolution be adopted.**

**Ms. Iannazzi moved to amend this Resolution. She stated that accidentally the last paragraph of this Resolution was left off the docket. The last paragraph should state:**

**Be it further RESOLVED that the sub-committee report back to the full School Committee at or before the June 14th Work Session.**

**Mr. Archetto seconded the motion.**

**This Amendment was adopted unanimously.**

**Ms. Iannazzi stated that she has been discussing with Mr. Bob Cushman who is the Chair of the Warwick School Committee the state of education in Rhode Island. Warwick just received a RIPEC Report, and Mr. Cushman very kindly allowed her to read this report. They have been chatting about special education costs, etc. Due to their collaboration through e-mail and phone conversations, she put this Resolution forward, and she hoped that her colleagues would support this effort to join Warwick in identifying cost saving measures for the taxpayers in both cities. Both cities are struggling with the costs of rising health care and unfunded mandates. She believed that by working together with the City of Warwick, the School Committee would be taking a creative step toward identifying fiscal savings.**

**Mrs. Greifer stated that as a member of the city/school department cost savings committee, she questioned the ambition of completing this and reporting back by June 14th given that this is the season of awards nights, graduations, and all the other sub-committees that the school department has. She is in favor of this Resolution; she is merely questioning the timing of the report. She felt it was overly ambitious. She would be happy to offer a September or October reporting deadline. Ms. Iannazzi responded that she is overly ambitious and did think that the committee could get results back by June. Also, the reason that she specifically picked June is that she would like to have measures enacted for the next fiscal year. By having the June date, that allows the School Committee to think about it and take action at the July meeting which would allow the committee to have them in place for the next school year. She will definitely come back to the School Committee asking for an extension if she is not able to meet the deadline.**

**Mr. Lupino indicated to Ms. Iannazzi that he was not questioning the tenor of the Resolution. He knew it was designed to attempt to save dollars by finding cost cutting measures. He felt that it was redundant because the school district already enters into groups through the RI Association of School Committees through companies such as Constellation for electricity. He questioned that the Cranston Public Schools, a very successful and proud system that has a per**

pupil expenditure that is \$1,000 less than the state average, would be joining with a school system that currently funds their schools with more than \$33 million to \$35 million more than Cranston for a few hundred kids. He questioned why Cranston would want to join with Warwick of all people. He stated that he would be voting against this because this is something that should be kept in-house. The cost savings can be generated through associations piggybacking on state bids. People in the audience were talking previously about five years down the road closing neighborhood schools. He asked if this is a precursor to regionalizing schools. He asked if there would now be the Cranston Warwick Regional School District. He understood Ms. Iannazzi's ambition about saving money, but he would be voting against it because he doesn't live in Warwick, doesn't want to live in Warwick, and they spend too much money. They have a teachers' contract that they can't get off the ground. They have a former school committee chairperson that has an ethics ruling that is twelve years old. He was the head negotiator for the teachers' contract. He didn't think that Warwick was the kind of town that he would want to get involved with in a situation like this. In addition, this would cost the district money because by putting this sub-committee together, there is the Superintendent or her designee which would cost money, the business manager doesn't need more meetings, school committee members who may or may not be here next year, and school committee members who may be involved in re-election campaigns or stumping for other people. He stated that he would be voting no on this Resolution and encouraged his

colleagues to do the same.

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Mr. Stycos stated that he shared some of Mr. Lupino's skepticism, but he was going to vote in favor of this Resolution because it is an idea that is worth a try. If it passes, the committee will see what the sub-committee comes up with and evaluate it when they come back with their report. The effort to come up with a new approach should be given a whirl.

Ms. Iannazzi referred to Mr. Lupino's earlier comments and stated that because the sub-committee would be reporting back by June 14th and people don't declare their intentions to run for office until the end of June, that point is basically not applicable. Secondly, the worst case scenario would be that the sub-committee is formed and finds out that Cranston is doing things so much better than Warwick, it would give this School Committee more bragging rights at the next city finance meeting. Even if that is the worst case scenario, and this sub-committee finds out that this district is doing things ten times better than the City of Warwick, it has benefits. She urged her colleagues to support this Resolution.

Mr. Archetto commented that he is in support of this bill. It is a new

idea and a new approach. If this passes, it doesn't change anything; it just creates a study commission. He did have reservations regarding the date. He hoped that Ms. Iannazzi would adhere to Mrs. Greifer's suggestion to extend it a little farther into June, perhaps after graduation time. Mr. Lupino stated that the committee would require another motion in order to do that. Criticized or not, this committee negotiated a teachers' contract in a reasonable amount of time. Warwick has taken almost three years. He would rather keep to the date to see if something will happen with this.

Mrs. Greifer commented that even though she asked to have it extended this would not be the first School Committee sub-committee to request an extension on a deadline. She didn't see that as an issue. Mr. Lupino added that it would be interesting to see if this committee did ask for an extension what the reasons would be.

Mr. Traficante remarked that any effort or any opportunity to save a dollar is worth the effort. He felt bad that many of these people, such as the Superintendent and Mr. Balducci, are on several committees right now. Keep in mind that this district can piggyback on state bids as well, and there is an opportunity to save money there as well. It is worth the effort.

Mr. Lupino offered a friendly amendment as follows: He indicated that the Resolution states the Superintendent or her designee. He asked if it could state the Business Manager or his designee. He

asked Mr. Balducci if there was someone from his office who could handle this and feel comfortable delegating this responsibility to. Mr. Balducci responded that there was someone.

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Mr. Lupino's friendly amendment states: to include the Business Manager of the Cranston Public Schools or his designee.

Ms. Iannazzi stated that she would accept this as a friendly amendment.

This Resolution as amended twice was adopted with Mr. Lupino opposed.

This Resolution as amended twice now reads:

**SPONSORED BY MS. IANNAZZI**

**NO. 06-4-5 - Whereas, Cranston and Warwick Public Schools are committed to fostering an efficient yet well-rounded educational experience for all students; and**

**Whereas, Cranston and Warwick Public Schools are urban-ring districts which struggle to keep up with the budgetary demands of**

**unfunded mandates, the rising costs of health care, and expanding fuel costs; and**

**Whereas, the Cranston School Committee seeks cost-saving measures and attempts to stretch all taxpayer dollars;**

**Be it RESOLVED that a sub-committee be formed to study joint purchasing with Warwick Public Schools and to identify common educational programs where shared resources and collaboration could provide potential savings to both districts; and**

**Be it further RESOLVED that the Cranston delegation to this sub-committee consist of the Superintendent or her designee, the Business Manager of the Cranston Public Schools or his designee, two School Committee members, and a member of the public appointed by the Chairperson of the School Committee,**

**Be it further RESOLVED that the sub-committee report back to the full School Committee at or before the June 14th Work Session.**

**Mr. Lupino commented that a teacher, Erin Hicks, was appointed in an earlier Resolution. He asked her to stand and be recognized.**

**SPONSORED BY MR. STYCOS**

**NO. 06-4-6 - RESOLVED, that policy No. 3172, Financial Impact Analysis, Collective Bargaining Agreements, be approved for second**



**and final reading.**

**Moved by Mr. Stycos and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.**

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**Mrs. Greifer referred to the last sentence in the proposed policy which states: “The impact analysis and terms of the agreement must be made public consistent with the terms of postings of public meetings at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.” She commented that her only concern is “the terms of postings of public meetings” because that requires publication in a newspaper. If the committee had to put an analysis and the terms of the agreement as an advertisement in the newspaper, that would cost a lot of money. Just listing the agenda in the newspaper costs quite a bit of money. She suggested an amendment to say that the committee would take out an advertisement notifying the public that the terms are available on their website. In that way, the committee could alert the public that the terms are available on the website. The public could go to the website to see the whole thing, and it wouldn’t cost a lot of money. She asked the School Committee secretary what it costs to publish the agenda in the Providence Journal. Mrs. Moretta stated**

that previously the school department was paying \$500 per legal ad. At the present time, she is placing the ad in the Cranston Herald which is saving a substantial amount of money. They are saving approximately \$350 per ad. It also depends on whether or not she can place the ad on time for the Cranston Herald. Mr. Lupino added that the Providence Journal is too expensive, and there is this scenario. Mrs. Moretta noted that she is limited with the Cranston Herald.

Mr. Lupino suggested removing “consistent with the terms of postings of public meetings” and state that “it be made public at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.” It could have a caveat that it be posted on the website and be posted in at least two public places.

Mr. Stycos stated that he believed the requirement to post in the newspaper is a requirement of school committees that is not a requirement for city councils. Mrs. Greifer responded that it is a requirement of the State Open Meetings Law that the school committees post their agendas and notices of public meetings. Mr. Lupino noted that it is clarified for school committees because they have to meet certain other criteria. Mr. Lupino reiterated that the committee could take out “that it be made public at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.” Public could be the website or copies are available at the Briggs Building. It could be e-mailed to the City Council and the administration.

**Mr. Stycos moved to amend as follows: The final sentence would read: “The impact analysis and terms of the agreement must be made public and placed on the school department’s website at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.”**

**Mr. Lupino stated that the committee could take this as a friendly amendment.**

**Mr. Lupino read the amendment as follows: “The impact analysis and terms of the agreement must be made public and placed on the Cranston Public Schools’ website at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.”**

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**Mr. Stycos stated that the committee has a contract that they are currently negotiating with the custodians. He wanted an assurance from the administration that the intention of this policy be followed because if the committee makes this change they will have to vote on it a second time before it becomes policy. He does want to know this information, and the public should know this information before the committee votes on the custodian contract or the cafeteria contract which is after the custodian contract.**

**Mr. Scherza noted that if that is the directive of this committee that is**

the way it will have to be. Mr. Lupino noted that Mr. Stycos wants assurances that any contracts that are TA'd between now and then will fall under this new Resolution. Mr. Scherza responded that if this is the directive of the committee that is the way administration would have to do it.

Mrs. Greifer stated that the unanimous vote on this Resolution last month sends a clear signal to the administration that this is the way they want to go. Mr. Traficante stated that he understood the cost analysis being posted, whether in the media or on some bulletin board, but he didn't recall any city council or mayor ever outlining and defining the entire contract in a newspaper ad. That has never occurred, and it hasn't happened in the past several years. What he is doing is proper to have it posed on the website so that it can be researched and read and responded to if the public cares to do so. Mr. Stycos had stated at a previous meeting that this is merely copying the City Council ordinance, and that is why the committee is looking at it.

Mr. Stycos moved to amend this Resolution as follows: To remove the words "consistent with the terms of posting of public meetings" and replace them with "and placed on the school department's website."

Ms. Iannazzi seconded the motion.

**This Amendment was adopted unanimously.**

**This Resolution as amended was adopted unanimously.**

**This Resolution now reads:**

**BUSINESS            3172**

**FINANCIAL   IMPACT   ANALYSIS   /   COLLECTIVE   BARGAINING  
AGREEMENTS**

**Whenever a collective bargaining agreement or other employee wage and benefit agreement is proposed, the Superintendent shall present a financial impact analysis for each fiscal year of the proposed bargaining agreement prior to**

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**consideration and vote for ratification. The impact analysis and terms of the agreement must be made public and placed on the school department's website at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**NO. 06-4-7 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Executive Director, Educational Programs and Services, be approved.**

**Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Scherza stated that it gave administration great pleasure to present to the committee for consideration for the position of Executive Director of Educational Programs and Services Ms. Judith Lundsten. Ms. Lundsten has had a distinguished career that began when she was a teacher of the visually impaired back in the 80's. She has been an elementary resource teacher; she has been at Horton Elementary School; she has been a grade 3 teacher at Garden City; she has been a principal at Arlington Elementary School, and more recently up to this time serves as Principal of Oak Lawn Elementary School. She has a Bachelors Degree from the State University of New York in Elementary Education. She has a Masters Degree in Special Education from George Peabody College at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. She has a number of graduate credits from Providence College, URI, and Roger Williams College. She is also involved with the Johnson & Wales University Aspiring Principals Program and a graduate of that program. She also teaches young principals and mentors young principals. Obviously, everyone is proud of Ms. Lundsten and enthusiastically recommend her.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 06-4-8 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Principal, Cranston High School West, be approved.**

**Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Scherza stated that it gave him great pleasure to put the name of Mr. Steven Knowlton before the committee to be the principal of Cranston High School West. Mr. Knowlton has had a distinguished career, and his administrative experience spans back approximately two decades. From 2004 to the present, he has been the Principal of Coventry High School where he has distinguished himself. Prior to that, he was principal of the North Smithfield Junior Senior High School, and prior to that he has worked in both North Smithfield and Uxbridge in administrative and teaching capacities. He is a graduate of Slippery Rock State College with a Bachelors Degree in 1974, and in 1982 received a Masters in Education from Worcester State College. He has**

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**approximately seventy plus graduate credits from Rhode Island College, Providence College, Worcester State College, Bryant**

**College, and Northeastern. Mr. Scherza said that he was very pleased to place for consideration the name of Mr. Steven Knowlton.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 06-4-9 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Principal, Western Hills Middle School, be approved.**

**Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Scherza stated that administration was very happy to put before the committee the name of Ms. Norma Cole to become Principal of the Western Hills Middle School to succeed Mr. Nero. Ms. Cole is currently the Principal of the Garden City Elementary School. Previously she served in the capacity as Principal of the Horton Elementary School, and she has also been an adjunct professor at Rhode Island College. She began her special education career at the Trudeau Center in Warwick as Director of Education. She has her Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from URI, and in 1977 received her Masters in Education in Special Education from Rhode Island College. She has a number of graduate credits beyond that in supervision, administration, curriculum, and technology. She currently mentors young principals in the Kennedy Fellows Program. It pleases him to put Norma Cole's name before the committee.**



**Ms. Iannazzi said that she is almost sad to see this happen because Garden City will be losing probably one of its greatest advocates over the past few years. Norma has done amazing work at Garden City School in the short time she has been there. She absolutely looks forward to seeing her pick up where Mr. Nero left off.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**NO. 06-4-10 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Assistant Principal for Special and Related Services, Cranston High School West, effective July 1, 2006, be approved.**

**Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Scherza stated that he felt administration had done a good job in bringing back some of its graduate students to the district. It gives administration a great deal of pleasure to put before the committee the name of Mr. David Schiappa who is a Cranston High School West graduate to become the Assistant Principal for Special and Related Services at Cranston High School West. In addition to the time he has donated**

**in the past fourteen or fifteen years to the Cranston schools, he has found time to do some other things.**

**Presently he serves as a school psychologist at Putnam High School. He has been on the staff there for a few years. He is also a part-time lecturer at Quinnepaug Community College and was a therapist and counselor at Bradley Hospital. Ironically, he did his field experience at the Career and Technical Center. His educational achievements include a Bachelors Degree from URI in Psychology and Sociology, a Masters Degree of Arts from Rhode Island College in Agency Counseling, and also from Rhode Island College he has been certified with a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in School Psychology. He also has an administrative certification from Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, and has been involved with courses at Providence College for administrative reciprocity in special education, administration, and certification.**

**This Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

## **BUSINESS**

**NO. 06-4-23 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:**

**Student Planners in the amount of \$28,345.45**

**Number of bids issued 11**

**Number of bids received 4**

**Medical Dental Supplies in the amount of \$7,087.11**

**Number of bids issued 17**

**Number of bids received 11**

**Custodial Supplies in the amount of \$75,880.05**

**Number of bids issued 36**

**Number of bids received 18**

**Trash Liners in the amount of \$14,640**

**Number of bids issued 17**

**Number of bids received 10**

**Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.**

**Mr. Stycos asked if the committee was talking about buying these items from the current year's budget or next year's budget. Mr. Balducci responded that they will be purchased out of the 05-06 school budget. From the Caruolo lawsuit, there was a change in the way the district purchases 99% of the supplies that are used within the district. Prior to closing that particular fiscal year which they went to court for, they did**

**sit down with the principals and asked them of all the supplies purchases for the schools which ones in their opinion did they need when they came on board in September. These were some of the areas they identified so he was able to take these off cycle where he is buying them this year so that when they come back in September everything will be there for them. Custodial supplies are a good example. Mr. Zisseron needs these materials come July 1st because this is the heavy cleaning period within the schools.**

**Mr. Stycos moved to amend this Resolution to remove Student Planners from this amount. He stated that they are very beneficial to the students, but they are not essential. He would like them removed until the committee sees what the budget amount is for next year and whether or not they want to spend \$28,000 on student planners next year or if it one of the cuts that the committee decides they want to make.**

**Mr. Archetto seconded the motion.**

**Mr. Lupino asked if the planners contained the disciplinary code, and Mr. Nero stated that it was in the planner. They also have the affidavit for residency contained there. They also have the technology acceptable use policy. He couldn't begin to tell the committee in terms of some of the discussions earlier tonight with regard to special education and what they will be doing with RTI, etc. Most of the kids have issues involving organization. He and his wife use a planner in his son's education, and they are keeping track of his work. Planners were originally paid for through the PAB's going back a long time ago, and it wasn't until Breaking Ranks started doing this for the high schools as part of a grant in the middle school. He understands that it is a very expensive line item, but as a principal sitting across from parents of children regarding their grades and lack of performance, the first thing they discuss is the planner. It is an integral part of every day life in terms of the child's education. He realizes it is an expensive endeavor, but at the high schools with regard to NEASC, they are heavily involved with the planners there.**

**Mr. Lupino asked administration for their recommendation and advice, and Mr. Scherza commented that as Mr. Nero stated they are a very integral part of education. Administration is looking to get everything into the budget that is really felt to be essential. They do play a very positive role with students and also administratively as well.**

Mr. Archetto stated that he wouldn't be supporting this amendment. As a teacher at Bishop Hendricken High School, he could see how essential the daily planners are especially at the middle and senior high school levels. The students have a lot going on, and they are very forgetful, and they need some type of organization.

Mr. Lupino added that it was very crucial that the district had the affidavit this year. He couldn't stress enough that he would not support this amendment.

This Amendment failed with Mr. Stycos in favor; Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, and Mr. Traficante were opposed.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

## **TABLED RESOLUTIONS**

**NO. 06-3-20 – RESOLVED**, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the termination of non-certified Employee A be accepted.

**No action was taken on this Resolution.**

## **X. New Business**

**Ms. Iannazzi requested that Mr. Lupino as acting Chair make an appointment of two committee members to the Joint Committee and also request that she be one of the two members. Mr. Lupino stated the members would be Ms. Iannazzi, Mrs. Greifer, and Mr. Lupino volunteered to be an alternate. Ms. Iannazzi commented that they would need a member of the public, but that appointment could be made at the Chair's convenience.**

**Mr. Stycos stated that he sent an e-mail regarding some items that were omitted from the budget that the committee submitted. He asked if those changes had been made. Mr. Scherza stated that he was not sure what items Mr. Stycos was referring to. He didn't recall seeing the e-mail within the past few days. Mr. Balducci asked Mr. Stycos if he was asking about the amendments made to show where in the budget they were located, and Mr. Stycos said that he had received that information. Based on that information, one had to do with the outside rentals. The resolution was not to put \$80,000 in revenue and \$80,000 in expenses which was done but rather to put \$80,000 in revenue and \$70,000 in expenses and \$10,000 was to be split between the East and West music programs. That wasn't done. Mr. Balducci responded that the committee**

**would have another opportunity to address next year's budget once the City Council approves their budget. He will make sure that the adjustment takes place. Mr. Lupino suggested that in the discussion with the City Council, they may want to mention that it wasn't done but will be done.**

## **XI. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items**

**There were no speakers on non-agenda items.**

## **XII. Announcement of Future Meetings**

**Mr. Lupino announced that the first public hearing with the City Council Finance Committee would take place tomorrow night at Cranston High School East at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Traficante commented that the difference between the Mayor's proposed budget and the School Committee's budget is not going to be \$5 million; it is close to \$3.8 million. It will be explained tomorrow night at the hearing.**

**Mr. Archetto stated for the record that he has a previous engagement**



for tomorrow's night hearing. He teaches Tuesday evenings at the Community College. He asked Mr. Lupino to make the announcement at tomorrow night's hearing.

Mr. Lupino reiterated that the first hearing will take place tomorrow evening, and the second hearing will take place on May 3rd at Cranston West at 6:30 p.m.

Next month's School Committee meeting on May 15th will be the last at Western Hills Middle School for the summer months. The committee meetings in June, July, and August are held at Hope Highlands School.

### **XIII. Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Traficante, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at  
10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Anthony J. Lupino**

**Clerk**

**BUSINESS            3172**

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS / COLLECTIVE BARGAINING  
AGREEMENTS**

**Whenever a collective bargaining agreement or other employee wage and benefit agreement is proposed, the Superintendent shall present a financial impact analysis for each fiscal year of the proposed bargaining agreement prior to consideration and vote for ratification. The impact analysis and terms of the agreement must be made public and placed on the school department's website at least 72 hours prior to a vote for ratification.**

**Policy Adopted: CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Resolution No. CRANSTON, RI**

**ADMINISTRATION 2520(a)**

## **Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Policy**

### **PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

**To provide guidance in the management and administration of a workplace AED program for the Cranston Public Schools. Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a condition that occurs when the electrical impulses of the human heart malfunction causing disturbance in the heart's electrical rhythm called ventricular fibrillation (VF). This erratic and ineffective electrical heart rhythm causes complete cessation of the heart's normal function of pumping blood resulting in sudden death. The most effective treatment for this condition is the administration of an electrical current to the heart by a defibrillator delivered within a short time of the onset of VF. An AED is used to treat victims who experience SCA. It is only to be applied to victims, who are unconscious, without pulse, signs of circulation and normal breathing. The AED will analyze the heart rhythm and advise the operator if a shockable rhythm is detected. If a shockable rhythm is detected, the AED will charge to the appropriate energy level and advise the operator to deliver a shock.**

**Accordingly, Cranston Public Schools has adopted this policy to assist trained lay rescuers to be better prepared in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest situation.**

**SYSTEM OWNER:**

**Cranston Public Schools**

**To assist all employees in understanding the requirements of the Policy, a Program Coordinator has been designated to answer any questions that may arise concerning the AED Policy.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

- **Selection of equipment.**

**&#1607; Selection of employees for AED training.**

**&#61607; Distribution of AED-trained employee lists.**

**&#61607; Coordination of training for emergency responders.**

**&#61607; Coordinating equipment and accessory maintenance.**

**&#61607; Maintain on file a specifications/technical information sheet for each approved AED model purchased or donated.**

**&#61607; Consulting local Emergency Medical Services (EMS).**

**&#61607; Revision of this procedure as required.**

**&#61607; Monitoring the effectiveness of this system.**

**&#61607; Communication with medical director on issues related to medical emergency response program including post-event reviews.**

## **MEDICAL CONTROL:**

**The medical advisor of the AED program is:**

**Name of Licensed Physician or Medical Authority**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Town:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Licensed Physician or Medical Authority will provide medical oversight of the AED program including:**

**&#1607; Writing a prescription for AEDs.**

**&#1607; Reviewing and approving guidelines for emergency procedures related to use of AEDs and CPR.**

**&#1607; Evaluation of Post-Event with all rescuers involved.**

**Automated External Defibrillator Continued 2520(c)**

**AUTHORIZED AED USERS:**

**The EMS in the Cranston Fire Department is ultimately responsible to deliver emergency care.**

**The AEDs may be used by:**

**&#61607; Any trained volunteer responder who has successfully completed an approved CPR/AED training program and has a current successful course completion card.**

**&#61607; Training classes should meet the guidelines of a nationally recognized program, such as the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or the National Safety Council.**

**&#61607; Retraining should occur every year – sooner if equipment, policies or procedures change.**

**&#61607; Cranston Public Schools will identify all employees who are AED certified.**

#### **AED-TRAINED EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**&#61607; Activate external emergency response by directing someone to call 911.**

**&#61607; Activating internal emergency response system. Trained employees should know how to recognize signs of sudden cardiac arrest, start CPR right away, locate and use the defibrillator, and care for the victim until the EMS team arrives.**



**61607; Understanding and complying with requirements of this policy.**

## EQUIPMENT:

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) AED that is easy to use such as but not limited to:**

**Cardiac Science    Phillips Medical Systems/Heartstream**  
**Corporate Headquarters    3000 Minuteman Road**  
**1900 Main Street, Suite 700    Andover, MA 01810-1099**  
**Irvine, CA 92614    (800) 263-3342 or (978) 687-1501**  
**(888) 274-3342    [www.medical.philips.com](http://www.medical.philips.com)**  
**[www.cardiacscience.com](http://www.cardiacscience.com)**

**Automated External Defibrillator Continued** **2520(d)**

**Defibtech      Welch Allyn (Formerly-Medical Research  
753 Boston Post Road      Laboratories, Inc.)  
Guilford, CT 06437      1000 Asbury Drive  
(866) 333-4248      Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
www.defibtech.com      (800) 462-0777**

**[www.welchallyn.com/medical](http://www.welchallyn.com/medical)**

**HEARTSINE Technologies   ZOLL Medical Corporation**  
**940 Calle Amanecer, Suite E   Worldwide Headquarters**  
**San Clemente, CA 92673   269 Mill Road**  
**(866) 478-7463   Chelmsford, MA 01824-4105**  
**[www.heartsine.com](http://www.heartsine.com)   (800) 348-9011**  
**[www.zoll.com](http://www.zoll.com)**

**Medtronic Physio-Control**  
**11811 Willows Road NE**  
**P.O. Box 97006**  
**Redmond, WA 98073-9706**  
**(800) 442-1142 or (425) 867-4000**  
**[www.medtronicphysiocontrol.com](http://www.medtronicphysiocontrol.com)**

#### **LOCATION OF AEDs:**

**&#1607; Schools and school department buildings**

#### **ADDITIONAL RESCUITATION EQUIPMENT:**

**Each AED will have one set of defibrillation electrodes connected to the device and one spare set of electrodes with the AED. Also**

included is a set of infant/child electrodes in the kit. One resuscitation kit will be connected to the handle of the AED. This kit contains two pairs of latex-free gloves, one razor, one set of trauma shears, and one facemask barrier device.

## **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE:**

All equipment and accessories necessary for support of medical emergency response shall be maintained in a state of readiness. Specific maintenance requirements include:

• The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall be responsible for having regular equipment maintenance performed. All maintenance tasks shall

Automated External Defibrillator Continued 2520(e)

• be performed according to equipment maintenance procedures as outlined in the operating instructions.

• Following use of emergency response equipment, all equipment shall be cleaned and/or decontaminated as required. Replace pads, pocket masks and other peripheral supplies that were used.

• Complete the AED Maintenance Checklist and return the

**AED to a state of readiness.**

## **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE:**

**The AED will perform a self-diagnostic test that includes a check of battery strength and an evaluation of the internal components. A volunteer, assigned by the AED Program Coordinator or designee, will perform a monthly AED check following the procedure checklist. The procedure checklist will be initialed at the completion of the monthly check. The procedure checklist will be posted with the AED.**

**&#61607; If the OK icon is NOT present on the readiness display, contact the AED Program Coordinator or designee immediately.**

**&#61607; If the battery icon is visible, the CHARGE-PAK charging unit needs to be replaced. You may continue to use the AED if needed.**

**&#61607; If the wrench icon is visible, the AED needs service. You may attempt to use the AED if needed. Continue to provide CPR until another AED is brought to the victim or EMS arrives to take over care.**

**&#61607; If the expiration date on the electrode is near, notify the AED Program Coordinator or designee immediately.**

**&#61607; Manufacturer of AED will provide monthly maintenance checklist.**

## **TRAINING:**

**&#61607; Identified employees will renew AED/CPR training every year.**

## **POST-EVENT REVIEW DOCUMENTATION:**

**Following each AED deployment, a review shall be conducted to learn from the experience. The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall conduct and document the post event review. All key participants in the event shall participate in the review. Include in the review shall be the identification of actions that went well and the collection of opportunities for improvement as well as critical incident stress debriefing.**

## **Automated External Defibrillator Continued 2520(f)**

**A summary of the post-event review shall be sent to the AED Program Coordinator or designee and the (Licensed Physician or Medical Authority). The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall maintain a copy of the post-event review summary.**

## **ANNUAL SYSTEM ASSESSMENT:**

**Once each calendar year, The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall conduct and document a system readiness review. This review**

**shall include a team “mock drill” to be conducted with local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to fine-tune the effectiveness of the program.**

**Policy Adopted: CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Resolution No.: CRANSTON, RI**

**STUDENTS 5140.2(a)**

### **Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Policy**

#### **PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

**To provide guidance in the management and administration of a workplace AED program for the Cranston Public Schools. Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a condition that occurs when the electrical impulses of the human heart malfunction causing disturbance in the heart's electrical rhythm called ventricular fibrillation (VF). This erratic and ineffective electrical heart rhythm causes complete cessation of the heart's normal function of pumping blood resulting in sudden death. The most effective treatment for this condition is the administration of an electrical current to the heart by a defibrillator delivered within a short time of the onset of VF. An AED is used to treat victims who experience SCA. It is only to be applied**

to victims, who are unconscious, without pulse, signs of circulation and normal breathing. The AED will analyze the heart rhythm and advise the operator if a shockable rhythm is detected. If a shockable rhythm is detected, the AED will charge to the appropriate energy level and advise the operator to deliver a shock.

Accordingly, Cranston Public Schools has adopted this policy to assist trained lay rescuers to be better prepared in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest situation.

**SYSTEM OWNER:**

**Cranston Public Schools**

To assist all employees in understanding the requirements of the Policy, a Program Coordinator has been designated to answer any questions that may arise concerning the AED Policy.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL PROVISIONS:**



- **Selection of equipment.**

**&#61607; Selection of employees for AED training.**

## **Automated External Defibrillator Continued 5140.2(b)**

**&#61607; Distribution of AED-trained employee lists.**

**&#61607; Coordination of training for emergency responders.**

**&#61607; Coordinating equipment and accessory maintenance.**

**&#61607; Maintain on file a specifications/technical information sheet for each approved AED model purchased or donated.**

**&#61607; Consulting local Emergency Medical Services (EMS).**

**&#61607; Revision of this procedure as required.**

**&#61607; Monitoring the effectiveness of this system.**

**&#1607; Communication with medical director on issues related to medical emergency response program including post-event reviews.**

**MEDICAL CONTROL:**

**The medical advisor of the AED program is:**

**Name of Licensed Physician or Medical Authority**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Town:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Licensed Physician or Medical Authority will provide medical oversight of the AED program including:**

**&#1607; Writing a prescription for AEDs.**

**&#1607; Reviewing and approving guidelines for emergency procedures related to use of AEDs and CPR.**

**&#1607; Evaluation of Post-Event with all rescuers involved.**

## **Automated External Defibrillator Continued 5140.2(c)**

### **AUTHORIZED AED USERS:**

**The EMS in the Cranston Fire Department is ultimately responsible to deliver emergency care.**

**The AEDs may be used by:**

**&#61607; Any trained volunteer responder who has successfully completed an approved CPR/AED training program and has a current successful course completion card.**

**&#61607; Training classes should meet the guidelines of a nationally recognized program, such as the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or the National Safety Council.**

**&#61607; Retraining should occur every year – sooner if equipment, policies or procedures change.**

**&#61607; Cranston Public Schools will identify all employees who are AED certified.**

### **AED-TRAINED EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**&#61607; Activate external emergency response by directing someone to call 911.**

**&#61607; Activating internal emergency response system. Trained employees should know how to recognize signs of sudden cardiac arrest, start CPR right away, locate and use the defibrillator, and care for the victim until the EMS team arrives.**

**&#61607; Understanding and complying with requirements of this policy.**

#### **EQUIPMENT:**

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) AED that is easy to use such as but not limited to:**

**Cardiac Science    Phillips Medical Systems/Heartstream  
Corporate Headquarters    3000 Minuteman Road  
1900 Main Street, Suite 700    Andover, MA 01810-1099  
Irvine, CA 92614    (800) 263-3342 or (978) 687-1501  
(888) 274-3342    [www.medical.philips.com](http://www.medical.philips.com)  
[www.cardiacscience.com](http://www.cardiacscience.com)**

**Defibtech    Welch Allyn (Formerly-Medical Research  
753 Boston Post Road    Laboratories, Inc.)  
Guilford, CT 06437    1000 Asbury Drive  
(866) 333-4248    Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
www.defibtech.com    (800) 462-0777  
www.welchallyn.com/medical**

**HEARTSINE Technologies    ZOLL Medical Corporation  
940 Calle Amanecer, Suite E    Worldwide Headquarters  
San Clemente, CA 92673    269 Mill Road  
(866) 478-7463    Chelmsford, MA 01824-4105  
www.heartsine.com    (800) 348-9011  
www.zoll.com**

**Medtronic Physio-Control  
11811 Willows Road NE  
P.O. Box 97006  
Redmond, WA 98073-9706  
(800) 442-1142 or (425) 867-4000  
www.medtronicphysiocontrol.com**

**LOCATION OF AEDs:**

**&#1607; Schools and school department buildings**

#### **ADDITIONAL RESCUITATION EQUIPMENT:**

**Each AED will have one set of defibrillation electrodes connected to the device and one spare set of electrodes with the AED. Also included is a set of infant/child electrodes in the kit. One resuscitation kit will be connected to the handle of the AED. This kit contains two pairs of latex-free gloves, one razor, one set of trauma shears, and one facemask barrier device.**

#### **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE:**

**All equipment and accessories necessary for support of medical emergency response shall be maintained in a state of readiness. Specific maintenance requirements include:**

**&#1607; The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall be responsible for having regular equipment maintenance performed. All maintenance tasks shall**

**Automated External Defibrillator Continued**

**5140.2(e)**

**&#1607; be performed according to equipment maintenance**

**procedures as outlined in the operating instructions.**

**&#61607; Following use of emergency response equipment, all equipment shall be cleaned and/or decontaminated as required. Replace pads, pocket masks and other peripheral supplies that were used.**

**&#61607; Complete the AED Maintenance Checklist and return the AED to a state of readiness.**

### **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE:**

**The AED will perform a self-diagnostic test that includes a check of battery strength and an evaluation of the internal components. A volunteer, assigned by the AED Program Coordinator or designee, will perform a monthly AED check following the procedure checklist. The procedure checklist will be initialed at the completion of the monthly check. The procedure checklist will be posted with the AED.**

**&#61607; If the OK icon is NOT present on the readiness display, contact the AED Program Coordinator or designee immediately.**

**&#61607; If the battery icon is visible, the CHARGE-PAK charging unit needs to be replaced. You may continue to use the AED if needed.**

**&#61607; If the wrench icon is visible, the AED needs service. You may attempt to use the AED if needed. Continue to provide CPR until**

**another AED is brought to the victim or EMS arrives to take over care.**

**&#61607; If the expiration date on the electrode is near, notify the AED Program Coordinator or designee immediately.**

**&#61607; Manufacturer of AED will provide monthly maintenance checklist.**

#### **TRAINING:**

**&#61607; Identified employees will renew AED/CPR training every year.**

#### **POST-EVENT REVIEW DOCUMENTATION:**

**Following each AED deployment, a review shall be conducted to learn from the experience. The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall conduct and document the post event review. All key participants in the event shall participate in the review. Include in the review shall be the identification of actions that went well and the collection of opportunities for improvement as well as critical incident stress debriefing.**

**Automated External Defibrillator Continued 5140.2(f)**

**A summary of the post-event review shall be sent to the AED Program**



**Coordinator or designee and the (Licensed Physician or Medical Authority). The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall maintain a copy of the post-event review summary.**

#### **ANNUAL SYSTEM ASSESSMENT:**

**Once each calendar year, The AED Program Coordinator or designee shall conduct and document a system readiness review. This review shall include a team “mock drill” to be conducted with local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to fine-tune the effectiveness of the program.**

**Policy Adopted:      CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Resolution No.:      CRANSTON, RI**